(b) whether it is a fact that the amount is less than that in previous years; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amounts to be allocated in both the said districts under the Yojana during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), the funds are released to District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) Zilla Parishads (APs). No funds are released directly to the blocks by the Central Government. 80% of the total funds were released to the Village Panchayats under JRY by the DRDAs/ZPs. However, from 1996-97, 15% of the funds are being release to block level Panchayats and 65% funds to Village Panchayats. The amount released by the Central Government under JRY to Vidisha and Raisen districts of Madhya Pradesh during 1995-96 and 1996-97 is as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| District | 1995-96 | 1996-97 |
|---|---|---|
| Vidisha | 193.34 | 111.70 |
| Raisen | 205.67 | 164.81 |

The short release during 1996-97 was due to unspent balance more than the prescribed limit, with the districts and non-release of State's share to the districts by the State Government.

(c) The tentative Central allocation made to both these districts during 1997-98 under JRY is given below:

(Rs. in lakhs)

| | |
|---|---|
| Vidisha | 199.4 |
| Raisen | 212.13 |

**Scarcity of Drinking Water in Uttar Pradesh**

3441. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:
DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been requested to solve acute scarcity of drinking water in Banda and other districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision on such requests so far; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA): (a) to (d) Projects/ Schemes to solve acute scarcity of drinking water are approvd by the States under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) Calamity Relief fund and the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) under the powers delegated to them. However, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh have sent projects to provide safe drinking water in the fluoride affected habitations of Banda, Ferozabad, Kanpur, Nagar and Jhansi Districts at an estimated cost of Rs. 1633.71 lakh. The State has been requested to modify the keeping inview the water quality characteristics and changed design parameter.

**Rural Road Under MNP**

3442. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) in the State sector